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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DATE DISTR.

13 April 1950

SUBJECT Use of Infra-red Equipment

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1. Several passenger cars, occupied by high-ranking officers, and two trucks, carrying round devices which resembled AA searchlights, arrived for a night searchlight practice. Each device was operated by two men, while a third man stood beside and seemed to watch through a small apparatus. The devices did not project visible light. The officers mentioned repeatedly boarded the trucks and made remarks such as "excellent" and "fabulous".
2. A sergeant took a small device out of a passenger car and mounted it on tripod. [redacted] it was a German infrared device which makes it possible to see at night. The large devices were only enlarged applications of the German night-sighting device.

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Comment:

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e. German night fighters and tanks used infrared devices of a relatively limited range. The German naval coastal artillery, however, was furnished with a device for night firing to a distance of 10,000 meters. The latter apparatus consisted of a large searchlight with red-glass attachment, an iconoscope which looked like a small searchlight, and a sighting mechanism

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similar to a small range finder. These three parts resemble the devices described in this report, but as the description given is very rough no exact interpretation is possible.

b. Although German AAA units did not use infrared devices, it seems possible that the Czechoslovakian Military Technical Institute concerned with infrared developments has designed AAA infrared devices.

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[redacted] the Czech AAA firing devices are probably still under development.

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